



ARENA REPORT



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Welcome to the final issue of Arena Report. So much is going on in my life that I just do not have the time to put this out on a bi-weekly basis. The thing that clinched it for me was all this controversy concerning Leighton, Mullins, Missy, etc. That's not the kind of sheet I wanted to be. To all the subscribers who are due issues, I will not be able to refund your money. Hey guys and gals, check the above date. Bad April Fools joke I know. "AR" will be around for a long time. I wouldn't be able to afford buying all of you out of your contracts. In this go around of "AR" you will find details on WRESTLE FAN I which takes place 5/17-5/20 in Tampa-St. Pete. That will be in "Ramblings" which leads off this issue. As is standard here at "AR" headquarters, I have a Wrestlemania review but since the show is two weeks old I just have a page of comments concerning the card instead of an in depth look at the body of the matches. We have a very interesting special feature written by Jeff Siegel as he uses an example on how wrestling can be used to your advantage in the work place. Scott Hudson looks at the TBS tapings as well as some more Georgia All-Star shoots that were done this past weekend. Evan Ginzburg looks at the recent Joel Goodheart card in Philly. And Mike Terry returns shooting from the hip.

Next issue will be cover dated April 15 and was to cover the UWF TV' tapings at Disney but calls to Pleasure Island have turned up no show. I really never thought it would come off anyway but if it does, I'll be there. We'll look at the WCW Japan Supershow which airs on most cable companies 4/7 at 8:00 p.m. eastern time. Scott Hudson will be back per usual. (Hey Scott, be careful who you hang with or you could become "Tailor Made".) Or no longer engaged. Heh, heh. Marianne Ryan will chase Klon out from under the mushroom and into the parking lot as they'll both be in the next ish. Don't get offended. I'm just trying to be creative with this intro stuff.

Arena Report is published bi-weekly and cost \$1.00 per issue. All renewal letters, and correspondent reports may be sent to Arena Report, P.O. Box 952547 Lake Mary, FL 32795-2547. The number on your label indicates how many issues you have remaining. Okay, let's dig our teeth into this ish.

RAMBLINGS

"Wrestle Fan I" will take place from May 17-19 in Tampa-St. Petersburg in conjunction with WCW's "SuperBrawl" PPV. Headquarters will be at the West Shore Marriot in Tampa which is 1 mile from the airport. There is a shuttle that will transport you to the hotel. To book reservations for your room, you may call 1-800-228-9290 and mention you need a room for Wrestle Fan I. The special rate is \$69.00. On May 18 (Sat.) from 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. we have Champions Sports Bar booked which is in the hotel. They have a giant screen TV so video watching will be available. There will also be a lunch buffet and there is negotiating going on to have some WCW personalities present. Cost for this event is \$10.00 including the buffet. Saturday night there will be an independant card in Tampa. They are trying to book the Blackhearts who

recently returned from a tour of Japan against Jumbo Berretta & Beef Wellington Buddy Landell is also being talked with as coming in for the show. Tickets will be available at the door. Sunday will be open with most people I've talked with interested in hitting the beach. There will be bus transportation to and from the PPV in St. Pete at the Bayfront Center. I would encourage everyone in going to the show to take the bus ride. Cost is cheap, \$5.00 round trip. Paul Spiegel still has some 2nd row seats available. Cost is \$32.00 including the service charge from the ticket agency. If anyone has more questions or wants more info, call Paul at (813)876-3371, Dave Flaherty at (305)524-2215, or myself at (407)321-3394.....The WWF/SWS combined show drew 40,000 plus but the paid attendance was 20,000 plus. Vince claims over 65,000 attended the event just so it would look like they outdrew WCW/New Japan. So how does he explain the 20,000 empty seats? There was a problem with the finish of the main event that night as the Road Warriors wouldn't do the job so Hulk Hogan finally agreed to do a count out so the Roadies beat Hulk & Tenyru when Hawk hit Hogan with a chair. Told there was lots of heat on the Roadies for not doing the job so let's see what Vince does to them if anything.....Undertaker and Paul Bearer locked Ultimate Warrior in the coffin at the TV tapings this past week. When the agents were finally able to get Warrior out, he was all white and looked like he almost suffocated.....Suncoast Pro Wrestling TV tapings on 4/30 drew 325 to see Dick Slater and Nasty Ned Brad go to a double DQ and Full Force beat Masked Superstar (Bob Cook) in the finals of the Florida title tourney.....Muta vs. Sting will be televised on the Tokyo Dome show 4/7. There was some question as to whether they would air it since Sting takes the pin but with all the promos, they better show it.....This business is a disgrace when a guy like Sid Vicious can command \$350,000 for a contract when he's one of the worst workers in the group. It shows that talent doesn't mean a thing. Last word is he'll be gone when the contract is up. Good riddance. Hope he bombs with Vince but I doubt it.....Mike Rotunda in as the I.R.S. man in the Fed. Lane.....Can't believe Vince acknowledged Col. Mustafa as the Iron Sheik on the syndies this week. Even said he was former WWF champ. Sheik is booked with Duggan everywhere. Think of all the jokes we could think of with that one. Hope the state troopers are on their guard.....Figures the NWA would give us this shitty finish of the Flair-Fujinami bout in Japan. They'll never get things straight.....Why do I have a bad feeling that something will involve Dusty at the taping at Center Stage this week. Why put off the inevitable.....Disappointed that the Birds were repalced by Dallas Page as color guys on WCW Pro. Not that Page is bad but but Lance and the Birds had a great chemistry.....After all the garbage Vince has pulled with the mainstrram wrestling mags, Bill Apter shills like crazy for Him in the latest issue of PWI. Hulk Hogan-America's Hero. Please. Do you think Vince will let your guys back at ringside shooting pics. Yeah, right.....Match up to watch in the WWF this month is Curt Hennig-Bret Hart. Should be real good.....Someone pointed out to me that during the Warrior-Savage contract signing, Sherri signed the contract but Randy never did. Could be the loophole to bring Savage back in.....Did you see the copy of Sports Illustrated with the story on the WWF? Do you think Vince dips into the WWF pharmacy once in a while or what?.....How come I haven't heard anyone complain about the finish of the Terry Funk-Jerry Lawler bout where Jerry won the USWA title back. Jackie Fargo does a quick count to give Lawler the win. Heel move if I ever saw one.....Speaking of the U.S.W.A., their Monday afternoon show on ESPN is good but I'm sick of seeing the same six guys all the time. Steve Austin, Gary Young, Eric Embry, Bill Dundee, Jeff Jarrett, and Tom Prichard. Speaking of Dr. Tom, in my last issue of "AR" I mentioned how Tom' grated my nerves because of his shtick. I meant on the mic. Jeff Mullins took offense in his latest Sushi about my comments but I never meant his work-rate. That is strike two with Jeff. One more and I guess I'm out.....UWF claiming they have the Manatee Civic Center booked on June 9 for a PPV with Rude-Orndorff, Cactus Jack & Orton vs. Steve Rey and Sunny Beach, and get this, Ivan Koloff vs. Bob Backlund. Yeah, and Bruiser Brody will be a guest ref too.....Any Orlando area subscribers interested in going to the 4/18 WCW show in Jacksonville can contact me at (407)321-3394. Here's the card: Flair-Sting with Gigante as ref, Luger-Nikita, Reed-Simmons, Steiners vs. Barry & Arn, Eaton-Taylor, Vader-Mantell, Rhodes-Bart.....Greg Yarman of P.O.Box 218, Seville, OH 44273 is moving to Atlanta for a few months to do an internship. He's interested in hearing from Atlanta area fans who would like to attend live shows together.....Wrestling Tape Exchange has just come out with an updated tape list. For info, write them at 2417-8 Barley Club Ct. Orlando, FL 32821.....For those that don't subscribe to the Wrestling Observer newsletter, editor Dave Meltzer has just come out with his 1990 Yearbook and it's the best work Dave has done to date which says a hell of alot. The price for non-subscribers is \$14.00 and it's worth every penny..... Send to Wrestling Observer P.O. Box 1228, Campbell, CA 95009-1228.

"Don't Ya Ever Watch Pro Wrestling???"

The Night It Worked In My Favor

...Jeff Siegel

There's a moral to the story I'm about to tell -- a somewhat different twist on a subject we've heard and read much about of late...

It was mid-February, and I was seated -- along with a colleague -- in one of the finer restaurants in Cincinnati, Ohio. Shortly, we would be joined by the Executive Vice President of Marketing & Advertising for one of the computer industry's highest-flying corporations. Here was a man in his early fifties -- earning hundreds of thousands of dollars a year -- who controlled literally millions of dollars a year in sales meetings, promotional programs, and advertising campaigns...most of which my employer had been trying to get a piece of for some time now.

"Bill" showed up, dressed meticulously in a fashionable, custom-made suit that even Slick Ric would've approved of. We exchanged the obligatory greetings, ordered the first of what would be several before-dinner drinks, and settled in for an evening of socializing combined with some subtle (and some not-so-subtle) marketing on our part. Thankfully, Bill, unlike many of his peers, is an exec who knows how to relax and have a good time -- making the prospects for a reasonably entertaining evening all the better.

It wasn't until we were well into our dinner salads that the conversation turned to a new product that Bill's company was planning to launch in mid-1991. Of course, there would be all kinds of hoopla associated with the event (something my employer specializes in), so Bill proceeded to fill us in on all of the details.

Our entrees arrived just as Bill finished painting a picture of what promised to be a truly remarkable addition to their product line. He paused, picked up his steak knife, eyed the giant piece of seared beef sitting in front of him, then looked up at us as if to invite a response to his impressive dissertation.

"Sounds like the ultimate in user-friendly software," I remarked, planning to follow-up with a brief discourse indicative of the tremendous amount of research we'd already done on their new product. Bill, however, jumped right back into the fray.

"Oh yeah," he said, "it's the ultimate all right." Then a light bulb went off over his head. "Hey -- maybe we should just sign on the warrior as a spokesperson."

"The warrior?," I asked, well aware of what he meant but momentarily stunned.

"You know, Jeff -- the Ultimate Warrior...face paint and all. Don't ya ever watch professional wrestling?"

"Oh sure," I said tentatively, still caught completely off-guard by the absurdity of this situation, "once in a while."

"Well then, here's what we'll do: We'll get the Warrior to run down the center aisle from the back of the house...huff and puff on stage for thirty seconds or so...and then keel over from exhaustion." Bill chuckled.

It was obvious that Bill and I had some talking to do.

In the hour that followed, the product launch was put on the back burner as we "grappled" with dessert and several rounds of after-dinner drinks.

I was impressed with Bill's knowledge of the game. Admittedly, Bill would still qualify as a mark -- though his comments and his insights made it clear that he was sitting atop "the fence", just waiting to be pushed "inside" the land of the "serious fan"....

"You want to talk about successful marketing -- then just look at what this McMahon boy has pulled off in the past few years. No one's better at taking a fat slob with zero talent and turning them into a full-blown TV celebrity." We talked for a while about several of the "fat slob" in question, and I peppered the conversation with a sprinkling of inside info.

"Now, the NWA's another story. When Turner bought it, (Now I was really impressed!) I thought for sure that he was going to take it big-time. Y'know, we've had some dealings with him in the past -- in fact, we're working on some things now -- and the man's a true genius when it comes to innovative thinking. When you factor in the bucks he's got behind him....well, let's just put it this way: if he really wanted to, he could blow the McMahon boy out of the water." That earned Bill yet another helping of behind-the-scenes gossip -- each morsel of which he savored and used as a springboard for additional discussion.

Meanwhile, my colleague looked on in disbelief. For one thing, he was unable to participate in the conversation, save an occasional laugh or misplaced comment. At the same time, however, he (being a veteran "Account Executive" -- a fancy name for salesman) knew all too well the immense value of tapping into a client's interests (the more specialized, the better) and exploiting it to the benefit of the business relationship.

As for myself, I was compelled to take a quick "reality check" during a visit to the washroom. Here I was, talking relatively hardcore wrestling for the past hour -- seated not opposite Sims, Meltzer, Mullins, or Lemieux -- folks who would've made this situation "make sense". Instead, I was in the company of a high-powered Fortune 500 CEO who had the authority to award my employer enough business to keep us all comfortably in pay-per-views through WM XXX. And he absolutely refused to drop the subject.

Bill and I have talked several times since that dinner. In truth, as much time is spent chatting about upcoming projects as is spent talking about what's going on "with that McMahon boy". I've introduced Bill to jargon like "angles" and "heat" and, not surprisingly (especially when you consider how successful he is in his own right), he's picked up on it all quickly. And just last week, I sent Bill a videotape filled with All-Japan and New Japan TV shows. He was only vaguely aware of Japanese wrestling -- now he may be hooked.

As of mid-March, it's unclear as to whether we'll be doing business with Bill's company in the immediate future -- though I've got to say, our chances look a lot better now than they did at any time during the past couple of years.

Oh yes -- the moral to the story. Perhaps it's already apparent, but it certainly bears emphasizing: The next time someone does the all-too-predictable tap dance on your head, your intelligence and your maturity for having anything to do with "something that's as stupid, as fake, and as ridiculous as professional wrestling", show them this column. And if that doesn't shut them up, suggest to them that their lawyer, accountant, President, or mistress might well be an "educated" professional wrestling fan, too.

What's more, don't be too quick to write off the possibility that being a wrestling aficionado can work in your favor, too. Like myself, you may find it to your advantage when you least expect it -- in the most absurdly unpredictable situations.

As for "Bill", he's still got a way to go. Should he be "smart" enough to send some of his business our way, I might be enticed into taking the next big step and introducing him to the world of the sheets. That is, if he doesn't subscribe already. ¶JS

RL- If anyone would like to see more of these type articles, please drop me a line and let me know.

A PIECE OF MY MIND BY EVAN GINZBURG

Generally when I do this column, it's somewhat of a struggle for me to fill up the page with wrestling related info and opinions. Too many disappointments from both the WWF and WCW for me to really care all that much about what's going on. I've felt like my pocket's been picked on **too many** occasions. However, having just attended Joel Goodheart's Tri-State Wrestling Alliance spectacular in Philly, I have a renewed respect and optimism for our sport.

First off, let me explain that I was a **paying** customer (I went on one of radio talk show host John Arezzi's bus tours), so I'm not kissing up to the promoter to get freebies of anything like that. A job well done **deserves** good ink, and frankly, you can not see a better show than this anywhere in the U.S. Cactus Jack and Eddie Gilbert had a 4* plus falls count anywhere in the building brawl that was so wild, it was at times hard to follow. The Original Sheik and Abdullah The Butcher engaged in an unforgettable bloodbath that wasn't pretty, but sure as hell was exciting. No, Meltzer wouldn't have loved it the way I did, but it sure popped the Civic Center big time. Throw in a wild barbed wire match between locals Tony Stetson & Johnny Hot Body, and a good (not great) main-event between Terry Funk & Jerry Lawler and you have a show that just can't be beat. The only disappointments were a sluggish Stan Lane-Al Perez match and a slow Ivan Koloff-Manny Fernandez chain match, but in no way shape or form did this take away from what was a **tremendous** card. The Sheik is reportedly 67 years old, and is still wilder than 99% of the "kids" out there.

Mark my words: Cactus Jack, if he doesn't hurt himself, will be one of the **biggest** stars of the 90s in both the U.S. and Japan. The bumps he took vs. Gilbert were even greater than some of the ones we've come to expect from him. **Awesome.**

Speaking of awesome, I have two incredible interviews coming up in Wrestling-Then & Now. The first is a lengthy piece with John Tolos (April), where he discusses everything from steroids to his great feud with Blassie. In May I have a **rare** bulletin interview with **CAPTAIN LOU ALBANO!** These are extensive pieces, and I'll also be enclosing rare clippings and photos of these legendary performers. I know there are many damn good bulletins out there & it's hard to get up the drive to try another one, but I promise you won't be disappointed. \$1.25/\$12 yr. to PO Box 471 Oakland Gdns. Station, Flushing, NY 11364.

And now back to your regularly scheduled column...

I decided to go see the Count Basie Orchestra with special vocalist Dianne Schur at Carnegie Hall rather than watch Wrestlemania. There's been all kinds of talk about people's disgust with the Slaughter angle, but how many fans will actually go so far as to skip it? I wonder. Sometimes I think wrestling is just a bit **too important** in some of our lives...

I will be Larry Katz's N.Y. correspondent on his Balt. based radio show. You can listen to me regularly on Sat. nites on WCBM AM 680.

A N.Y. based indie show headlined by Cactus vs. Sandy Beach **sold out**. Joel Goodheart's show almost sold out. An Arizona based indie featuring Manager Marcel Bovee drew **900**. Memphis has its big nites too. Maybe, just maybe, there's a revolution going on where fans are just tired of the rip-offs and want a smaller, more entertaining show where they get the most for their dollar. We'll see...

Ron's rival, Rodney Leighton, is starting a bunch of his own sheets. Should be interesting to see if their "war" continues, particularly as one of Rod's ideas is called "bulletin wars!" Speaking of "AR", Marianne Ryan's piece on wrestlers that are respected by their peers was **damn** good. Great to see her column reaching its potential...

That's about it gang...

IT'S MY 2-CENTS by Mike Terry

With the outcome of Wrestlemania's main event so clear ahead of time, about the only real attraction for me was Randy Savage vs. the Ultimate Warrior. I wasn't disappointed. From the first camera shot of Elizabeth, even Ray Charles could have seen what was to come (uh-huh). As the conclusion of the match closed the book on Randy's career and Elizabeth embraced her fallen hero, I got a little something in my eye which made it a bit difficult to see. It was a poignant scene. I think the cheers of the crowd were as much in appreciation of Randy's efforts and talents as they were for the reunion of the star-crossed lovers. While the insiders' grapevine reveals that Randy will return, the whole episode made me appreciate him a whole lot more. There are few who are his equal. He is a complete showman who plays his part to perfection. When he does hang up the tights for good, the sport will lose.

Am I glad I spent 30 dollars on Wrestlemania? No. Would I do it again? Yes. Was it worth it? Basically, yes. Wrestlemania still holds an aura for me, but then so does most everything concerning pro wrestling, although I still have not sent in my \$24.95 renewal for the WCW magazine. The new issue didn't do much to convince me, either. They're just so far out of date by the time you receive them.

By the way, I hope you caught the Savage profile on Prime Time Wrestling. It was a rare look into the WWF past which included the first time Savage ever entered the ring for the WWF, the announcement of Elizabeth as his manager (with all the other managers in the ring), plus other highlights--and there have been many. Great job!

Is it just me or did the team of Monsoon-Heenan never really click at Wrestlemania?

I still watch the USWA Legends show weekdays on ESPN. Some interesting matchups pop up now and then in between the interminable Eric Embry-Gary Young boreathons. Where else could you see Sid Vicious vs. Kerry Von Erich? Double countout, by the way.

It's been years since I've seen or heard Tom Prichard on TV, but I always had a lot of respect for his talents in the ring and on the mike. But I gotta tell ya gang, how do you take seriously a guy whose whole gimmick on the mike is a blatant ripoff? I just can't get past picturing Roddy Piper every time I hear Tom. It's just like all the morning radio DJs who imitate Dave Letterman. Often imitated; never duplicated..... Something tells me the sainted Jim Ross doesn't care much for "rookie" referee Lee Scott. Ross never seems to miss an opportunity to get a little dig in.

So the Ultimate Warrior strips Sensational Sherry and all those moralistic parents grab their kids and head for the exits like somebody has just yelled, "Fire!" So why in the hell are all these noble, honorable, principled parents bringing their kids to a pro wrestling match in the first place? It's OK to let the kids see their heroes choking, kicking, biting, gouging, running each other's heads into steel posts, smashing chairs over each other's heads, cheating to win, and beating each other to supposed states of unconsciousness, but don't let our kids see a lady's clothes being ripped off. God forbid, what might happen to our children's impressionable minds????

WCW Pro Wrestling is off the air in my market now. Lance, I miss you!.....Does Jerry Jarret really believe he can build a promotion around his son Jeff? I just don't see it. I also wonder if the long, bleached-blond hair isn't a detriment to Jeff. He looks like such a sissy. No wonder many of the young males in the audience don't relate to him. How many of your male friends bleach their hair?

For the second month in a row, congratulations to Dusty Rhodes for taking what I consider to be some very positive steps on WCW. Say what you will, but he's producing some excellent television shows. The shows are obviously being marketed toward the more hardcore fan and the distinction between WCW and the WWF has never been more apparent. Whether this direction will result in putting more butts in seats and increased PPV orders will be interesting to see. So now as soon as they get the momentum going and the ratings on the rise, here come the ratings busters-- the Atlanta Braves.

As I write this, it appears Butch Reed is fulfilling his obligations to WCW. But it seems to me those obligations go further than simply corporate responsibility. I think Butch owes it to Ron Simmons and to Teddy Long to let this angle play out. For Butch to desert now would be unconscionable.

Give El Gigante credit, he's improving.....I deplore the WWF for allowing the Mountie to use that cattle prod on his opponents.....If Davey Boy Smith gets any more pumped up, the WWF can float him in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. Until next month--deal with it. It's my 2- cents.

WRESTLEMANIA WRAP

I almost had heart failure when Hacksaw Duggan came to ringside to do commentary to open the show. Thank God it was only for the first match. His color wasn't that bad when he was in the UWF but since he came to the WWF, his announcing skills have gone the same direction as his workrate- south..... Rockers vs. Barbie & Haku was decent but the heels just couldn't keep up with all the fast spots the Rockers wanted to do. ***.....Is Marla Maples proud that the only reason she is a celebrity is because she was Donald Trump's mistress.. Kerry Von Erich beat the WWF's "hostess" Dino Bravo. Dud.....Davey Boy vs. Warlord was better than expected. But this was one of the bouts that have run at the houses so why the big deal? It was funny at one point when Heenan said, at the six minute mark, "If Warlord had done that earlier, this match would have been over 10:00 minutes ago." They would have still been in the locker room Bobby. ½* (Hey, I expected a negative star bout.).....Hard to believe that in the span of a year, the Nasty Boys have gone from toiling in the PWF to WWF tag champions. It was obvious during the title match that Knobs is the more talented one. Saggs wasn't very cooperative. How come heels can never win titles without using a foreign object or outside interference? Actually, it happens in all regular matches too. Last two minutes were real hot. **3/4 Sayonarra Anvil.....Want a bonafide winner of worst match of the year candidate for 1991? El Gigante vs. Andre the Giant couldn't beat this one. Jake Roberts vs. Rick Martel in the blindfold match. Why didn't they make this a quick one? Garbage. -*****.....Did you hear the fans cheering madly for the Undertaker? Granted, Snuka was the opponent. Vince better do something quick or Callous will turn into another Sid Vicious. *.....Warrior-Savage was the best match on the card. How could Bobby Heenan spot Elizabeth from where he was sitting. And did you notice when he told the cameraman, "Hey, point the camera over there.", it went right on Elizabeth. Warrior threw the worst phantom punches I've ever seen. Match wasn't too hot until they took it outside. Question. What would the finish have been in Japan if Savage had hit Warrior with five consecutive flying elbows? He would have pinned him that's what. But not here. They ruined the most awesome part of the match. But we all knew he'd kick out. Sherri was good during the match but I'm honestly getting tired of it. The goofiest part of the bout was Warrior looking for an answer from the Gods and since he wasn't getting it, he was leaving. Who's idea was that one? Sherri's attack on Savage was great. I was surprised they turned Randy so quick. After Liz and Randy made up, the most hypocritical line of the night was said by Monsoon. "What a lady and what a man." Five minutes earlier he was blasting Savage for being too vicious. Give me a break. Los Angeles brought back memories of Dallas and the grown up Von Erich fans bawling. I was told one lady crying was a plant but when the directors saw all the other people crying legit, he had the cameras pan the crowd. Randy should be on fire when he returns. Angle got over big. ****.....Koji Kitao has no business being in a wrestling ring. Do you think Vince did this on purpose to make fans think this is the kind of Jap wrestling we'll see in the NWA? I felt bad for Demo even though Brian Adams isn't much better. I can't believe they used Tenyru as a foil in that goofy interview. -*.....Curt Hennig looks like he has aged 50 years. I have a bad feeling after seeing Andre make the save that we're going to be subject to Haku & Barbarian vs. Boss Man & Andre matches upcoming. **.....Earthquake over Valentine. -**.....Legion of Doom buried Power & Glory. Either they're pushing Warriors like monsters finally or Roma & Hercules are history. I'd guess both are correct. No grade.....Now we all know Piper's injured leg was a work. It was more enjoyable watching DiBiase pushing Piper down than watching the match. Sherri will be doing the same shtick but now for Ted. I wish Savage or Steamboat had made the save for Piper. *½.....By this time in the show, I was just wishing it would end. So who do they bring out? Mountie vs. Santana. At least it was short. Dud..... Surprise!!!! Hogan beat Slaughter for the title. Match got pretty good when they started brawling. Hulk did a major juice job which helped things. Most assanine comment of the night goes to Monsoon. (Of course) "To put it to rest, the war is officially over." Sorry Gorilla, but the World Wrestling Federation isn't the only thing that matters in this world.....Overall the show was okay workrate wise. Half decent bouts and half bad matches. But the predictability was the worst for any PPV I've seen. Christopher told me all the finishes before the bouts that's how bad it was. Wrestlemania is supposed to be their best PPV and it never is. Maybe they should limit the number of bouts nad make them all mean something instead of having throw aways like Mountie vs. Tito or Quake--Valentine. But they won't learn.....When Chuck Norris was talki about the old timers and mentioned Prof. Tanaka, how many fans do you think were wondering if he was referring to Pat.....Grade for Hogan-Slaughter was **3/4. Wish they would have shown the angle where Hulk got burned at the end of the show but then the fans wouldn't have turned off the tube happy.

SCOTT HUDSON'S.....

GEORGIA WRESTLING JOURNAL

THE MOUNTIE ALWAYS GETS HIS MAN! Well for God's sakes keep him away from Dino Bravo. Of course, this is issue 16 of the Georgia Wrestling Journal..

GEORGIA MOUNTAINS CENTER (Gainesville, Georgia) 03-25-91: WCW TV TAPINGS FOR AIR ON 04-06-91. World Championship Wrestling: Ric Flair over Joey Maggs..Barry Windham over Joe Barrett..Brian Pillman over Mike Thor..Young Pistols over Tom Burton & Tony Muntoz..Junkyard Dog over Rick Silencer..Dustin Rhodes & Ricky Morton over State Patrol..Terrence Taylor & Larry Zbysko over Bobby Eaton & Tom Zenk..The Steiners over Mark Kyle & Joe Cazana..Nikita Koloff over Jim Boss & The Unknown Jobber..One Man Gang over Larry Santo..Sting & El Gigante over Sid Vicious & Arn Anderson..**NEWS AND NOTES:** The long-time WCW bell ringer "Charlie" rang the bell following a two count during the Young Pistols' squash to the confusion of just about everyone..During the JYD squash, Kevin Sullivan, One Man Gang, & Teddy Long tripleteam the Dog until Ron Simmons makes the save..The Taylor/Zbysko vs. Eaton/Zenk match was fabulous. Bobby was disqualified for using Alexandra York's computer..Following Koloff's handicap match win, he is interviewed by Jim Ross at ringside. Lex Luger runs-in and is promptly destroyed by Nikita. Nikita then takes the old U.S. belt and breaks it on the ring corner-post..Sting pinned Arn in the finale in an excellent match..(ATT:1000. Good, hot crowd)

NORTH GEORGIA WRESTLING CENTER (Alpharetta, Georgia) 03-31-91: **GEORGIA ALL-STAR TV TAPINGS FOR AIR THE WEEKENDS OF 04-06-91 THROUGH 04-27-91.** (04-06-91) Joel Deaton over Mad Dog Joe..Mike Servich over Big Bully Busick..Randy Rose over Bill Dalton..Billy Black over Fabian..(04-13-91) Kyle O'Neal over Mr.X..The PYT's over James Meyers & Chief Little Lynn..Mike Servich over Avenger #1..Steve Lawler over Tom Sawyer..(04-20-91) John Michaels & R.D. Swain over Mad Dog Joe & Eddie Sweat..Festus over Bill Dalton..Brody Chase over Mr.X..Chick Donovan over The M16..Brute Force over Tim Strong & Tom Sawyer..(04-27-91) John Michaels & R.D. Swain over The Avengers..Big Bully Busick over The Mountain Man..Brute Force over Chief Little Lynn & Tom Sawyer..**NEWS AND NOTES:** The commentary for this taping was handled by Joe Pedicino, Craig Johnson of the USWA, and myself..The Pretty Young Things, with their manager Timmy D (Tim Dix) are the current teg team champs and are feuding with Michaels and Swain over the belts..Michaels and Swain are mounting a letter writing campaign in order for the fans to come up with a name for them..Billy Black won the Television Title from Fabian on the 04-06 show..Steve Lawler continues to hold the Georgia Heavyweight title but will probably lose it soon to Joel Deaton and win it back from Deaton prior to Deaton's next Japan tour in July..Billy Black is being managed by Honest Abe Lincoln, a guy who is a dead ringer for the ex-president of the same name..They are doing a creative angle using Mike Servich and Big Bully Busick. During the 04-06 show, Busick pulls Servich over on top of him and holds him there for the referee to count the pin. Busick then does interview after interview praising Servich as if Servich was the greatest thing in wrestling. Busick continually offers Servich a "victory cigar" after each victory. I have no idea as to where this is going, but it is fun. Servich looks like Scott Steiner but is not yet a good worker..Lots of great work on these tapings as well as some superior mic work, also (even if I do say so myself). No, seriously, the commentary was pretty entertaining and it was a lot of fun..Incidentally, Terri Power has now taken over the #1 position on my Hit Parade..

THE LAST WORD...

**THE 1990'S WILL
DEFINITELY BELONG TO:**

- | | |
|------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Fabian | 6. Barry Windham |
| 2. Ron Simmons | 7. Steve Austin |
| 3. Scott Steiner | 8. Ricky Rice |
| 4. Terri Power | 9. Sid Vicious |
| 5. Owen Hart | 10. Shawn Michaels |

CORRESPONDENT'S CORNER

St. Joseph Civic Arena (WCW)

St. Joseph, MO

March 14, 1991

Correspondent: Bruce Grummert

1) Larry Zbyszko pinned Brad Armstrong in a good opener. 2) Dustin Rhodes bulldogged Moondog Rex. 3) Terry Taylor and Tom Zenk went to a fifteen minute draw. 4) Brian Pillman, Owen Hart, & Junkyard Dog beat the Freebirds & Dan Spivey. Pillman worked almost the whole bout while Dan was in very little. Good match. 5) Barry Windham defeated Rick Steiner via pinfall. 6) Lex Luger beat Stan Hansen via count out in a good brawl. 7) Ron Simmons over Butch Reed 8) Sting beat Ric Flair via DQ when Barry ran in and attacked special ref Gigante. ATT: 3,400

The Palace (WWF)

Auburn Hills, MI

March 16, 1991

Correspondent: Doug Hendricks

1) Tito Santana pinned Haku in 6:13. 2) The Mountie beat Jimmy Snuka in 7:20. 3) Legion of Doom over Nasty Boys at 10:17. 4) Sgt. Slaughter beat Ultimate Warrior in a cage match in 18:45. 5) Hacksaw Duggan speared Gen. Adnon in 1:22 6) Bushwhackers defeated Orient Express at 15:30. 7) Jake Roberts & Big Boss Man beat Rick Martel & Mr. Perfect at 12:10.

Mammoth Event Center (LCW)

Denver, CO

March 17, 1991

Correspondent: Boyce Johansen

1) Tiki Topa pinned Eddie Racker after a flying headbutt. 2) Too Cold Scorpio over Space Cowboy. 3) Don Juan defeated The Predator by count out. 4) Ted Nall beat Randy Morris to retain the LCW title. ATT: 63

Bluefield Civic Center (WCW)

Bluefield, WV

March 22, 1991

Correspondent: Leonard Sims

1) Ricky Morton pinned Buddy Lee Parker. 2) Junkyard Dog thumped James Earl Wright. 3) Tommy Rich Thesz pressed Dr. X. 4) Dustin Rhodes over Dutch Mantel. 5) Big Josh axe handled Black Bart. 6) Owen Hart beat Moondog Rex. 7) Bobby Eaton won over Terry Taylor but after the match Terry left him laying. 8) Young Pistols over Freebirds. 9) Big Josh won a twenty man battle royal. 10) Lex Luger downed Sid Vicious to retian the U.S. Title.

Webb Jr. College (UWF)

Tampa, FL

March 22, 1991

Correspondent: Shannon Rose

1) Tom Arndt drew Rico Frederico. 2) Jerry Flynn beat Beef Wellington via DQ. 3) Big V beat Nasty Ned Brady. 4) Chris "The Doctor" Proctor pinned Jumbo Berreta. 5) Man Mountain Brody eliminated Berreta to win a battle royal. ATT: 700

LETTERS TO "AR"

Hot Rod

I believe it would be appropriate to set the scene, for those readers who do not get all the sheets involved.

Lat Fall in, I believe issue #28, Jeff Mullins, or actually it was his alter ego Riki Jack made a comment, "if he can TRUST you Rod" which not only surprised and hurt me but which immediately would have made all Sushireaders feel that Jeff had some doubts about my honesty, integrity, and trustworthiness. This of course, all personal feelings aside was quite damaging to me and my reputation. (Possibly even worse than the garbage I wrote during that period and sent to you.) As you are well aware, a person in the sheet business needs a good reputation; needs to be known as a person who can be trusted.

I was not allowed the opportunity to respond in Sushi, not even after three different attempts. This of course, only served to emphasize the lack of trust Jeff felt for me. Neither would he address the issue directly. So I took a crack at him in Riot.

Now here he is in "AR" stating there is no lack of trust between us and suggesting I may have meant Jeff Zinger. My first thought about hearing about this was that you guys were trying to generate some heat between J.Z. and I. Didn't work. I assured J.Z. long ago of whom I meant.

I do not wish to have a feud with Mullins in the pages of "AR". This issue should be addressed in Sushi or if not, than Riot. I have invited him to address it in my own sheet. However I do want to say this. Until this issue is mentioned in Sushi there will be people who believe Jeff Mullins mistrusts Rodney Leighton. Until such time as that feeling is removed, and only Jeff can do it in Sushi, than Rodney Leighton does not trust Jeff Mullins.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to air my views.

Rodney Leighton
Pugwash, Nova Scotia

RL- Is it time to go out for recess yet? We've heard from all three parties on this issue and I'll print no more letters regarding it. Take it up in Sushi.

Arsenio

Did you catch Hulk Hogan on the Arsenio Hall Show a couple of days before Wrestlemania? A couple of interesting things- he tried to make a joke about his lack of hair that went right over the studio audience (and Arsenio too.) But he really had me cracking up when he said that Sgt. Slaughter had a choice on whether he wanted to be a "good guy or bad guy". Yeah, right.

Jeff Zinger
Woodstock, ONT

Name Withheld

This letter is in response to Evan Ginzburg's letter of response to "Name Withheld". Evan, your contributions to "AR" and other newsletters, as well as your own, are very much enjoyed. "Name Withheld" letters are especially irritating when they are of a critical nature. My thought at seeing the name withheld was, "fine, now go tell somebody who gives a shit." What a wimp.

Had it not been for your response to Withheld's letter, I wouldn't have given it another thought. But, your letter prompted me to re-read Withheld's, and so I bring to your attention that the "dork" Withheld was referring to was not you or Brian Tramel but Lance Levine. (Who, by the way, had the guts to SIGN the highly critical letter that started the squabble Withheld refers to.) So, let's keep the dorks straight, okay? Anyone who's told to peek in their pants should also keep their dorks straight, that's what I always say.

Marilyn Rundle
Gardiner, NY

RL- In defense of Name Withheld, she sent me the letter not expecting me to print it. I only did so after I asked her permission even though it criticized me and my staff. I'll always firmly believe that everyone can express their views in this sheet whether people agree or not.

Well, that's all for this issue. Thanks for reading and we'll see you in two. Bye.

Ron